Equal Rights

VOL. XIII, No. 7
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
MARCH 27, 1926

FEDERAL DIVISION
MAR 26 1926

Courtesy of the Indianapolis Times.

Margaret Whittemore (left) and Mabel Vernon stop in Indianapolis on their 10,000-mile trip to put more women in Congress. Their tour, which is attracting nation-wide attention, will extend to the Pacific Coast and back again across the Continent. It is anticipated that they will reach the Atlantic seaboard about the middle of May, when they will be honor guests of the Women for Congress Conference, to be held in Baltimore and Washington, under the auspices of the National Woman's Party.

Feminist Notes

Equal Pay in British Civil Service

THE Federation of Women Civil Servants (England) is demanding that the House of Commons authorize and appoint a select committee to bring about equal pay between men and women in the Civil Service.

Policewomen to Hold Conference

THE Annual Conference of the International Association of Policewomen will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 23-26. One of the chief topics to be discussed will be the reports of committees which have been studying the standards and methods of policewomen's service.

Women Physicians Admitted to R. C. S.

THIRTEEN British women have received the vote in the Royal College of Surgeons. These thirteen were already fellows and members of the college, but without corporate rights. By a recent decision they are now allowed to vote for the all-powerful council and they are eligible to that body. Women surgeons thus have captured the last stronghold of their profession.

Women in Demand as Farmers

THE Women's Farm and Garden Association of England reports that so great is the demand for women agriculturists that it is having difficulty in finding sufficient women to fill the places open. Women are particularly in demand as dairy helpers, the association says.

Turkish Women Demand Rights

BOTH the Feminist press of Europe and the newspapers are full of reports of the demands of Turkish women for a broader scope of activities. The Turkish Women's Union is demanding the right for women to speak in the mosques. Many women are going into business, and entering the professions. They are taking part in outdoor life as never before. Particularly are they demanding equality of status in marriage.

May Honor Indian Woman Guide

REPRESENTATIVE Charles E. Winter of Wyoming is urging that the Federal Government erect a monument over the grave of Sacajawea (Bird Woman), the Indian woman who served as guide to the Lewis and Clark expedition which blazed the trail to the Pacific and opened up the Northwest. Sacajawea saved the expedition from hostile Indians, and, with a papoose on her back, piloted the explorers from mid-continent to the sea, and in various ways saved them from dangers.

Agricultural School for Women

THE Women's International Zionist Association has founded an Agricultural School for Women, which will shortly be opened in Galilee. It is the only one of its kind in the Middle East.

Greetings from Vienna

Vienna, Austria,
March 1, 1926.

To the Editor:

I was so glad to receive the "Equal Rights" notes and the photographs which have been sent me by the National Woman's Party.

The good news from America comes like a ray of sunshine. Every week our paper brings extracts from your "Equal Rights." Our paper is read in Europe by about 100,000 people—you see, we propagate your principles! I admire the strength and your clear-sighted way of proceeding.

My last creation that I have called to life in collaboration with Lady Gladstone and Lady Livingstone of London and Mme. de Jouvenel of Paris is the Welcome Club in Vienna. We want to welcome the friends of the National Woman's Party as ours.

It is my dream to come to Washington soon. What is the best time and when is your next international meeting? I am with all my thoughts and longings with the active and energetic women in America and hope to know you all personally soon.

With my best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

HELENE GRANITSCH,
President of the
Austrian Willkomclub.

English Women Teachers for Equal Rights

THE Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Teachers (England) adopted resolutions favoring equal franchise, equal pay and equal opportunity for men and women teachers, and equal opportunity for boys and girls in schools, and a resolution opposing the dismissal of married women teachers.

Woman Runs X-Ray Laboratory

THE Portland (Oregon) Business and Professional Women's Club believes that Edna Christofferson, one of its members, is the only woman operating an X-ray laboratory independently in the United States. Miss Christofferson's laboratory is successful both scientifically and financially, and is patronized by leading physicians and surgeons of Portland.

American Medical Women Honored

AT the dedication of the dispensary of the "Residence Sociale" in Levallois-Peret, inaugurated and maintained by the American Women's Hospitals, seven members of the Executive Board were honored by the French Government with the silver medal of "Reconnaissance Francaise." The members thus honored were Dr. Angenette Parry, Dr. Gertrude A. Walker, Dr. Elizabeth Thelberg, Dr. Matilda K. Wallin, Dr. Eliza M. Mosher, Dr. Harriet F. Coffin and Dr. Marie L. Chard.

Woman Heads Insurance Company

ROSE BARRY DIETZ of Chicago is president of the Globe Mutual Insurance Company. The company has been in existence thirty-one years.

Women's Work in Hotels

A STUDY made by Bertha T. Pettit for the Bureau of Vocational Information shows that women are finding increasingly valuable opportunities for high positions in hotel work.

"They are going into the managerial end of it in increasing numbers, in spite of the sober warnings of hotel men that the hours are long, the work hard, and the salaries not as high as they should be, and that there is much prejudice against women still," the *Independent Woman*, organ of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, says:

Lois Pierce Hughes, director of the women's floor of the Hotel McAlpin; Evelyn M. Barber, interior decorator for a chain of twenty-two hotels; Manda Lee Heath, manager of personnel for he same chain (United Hotels Company); and Lillian Randolph, formerly in charge of twelve Government hotels in Washington, now manager of the Webster in New York, are named as examples of the success of women in different aspects of hotel management. The Grace Dodge Hotel in Washington is named as "entirely a woman's enterprise." Other hotel positions which the magazine says are being filled with women are those of floor clerk, traveling auditor, travel information director, hostess or "house mother," housekeeper, stewardess, restaurant and cafeteria managers, food and storage inspector, publicity director, educational director for employes, managers and assistant managers for hotels, summer inns, and apartment-houses, and supervisor of mail, information service, and telephone service.

For Equal Citizenship Rights

COMPLETE equalization of the citizenship rights of married women was sought by members of the National Woman's Party at hearings on proposed amendments to the Cable Act (Married Women's Citizenship Act) before the House of Representatives Committee on Immigration and Naturalization and before a sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Immigration on March 23.

The proposed amendments, which were drafted by Emma Wold of the Legal Research Department of the National Woman's Party, were introduced in the House by Robert L. Bacon of New York (Republican), and in the Senate by Senator Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin (Progressive Republican), will, when passed, put the citizenship of married women on exactly the same basis as that of married men. In other words, a woman's citizenship would be no more affected by her marriage than a man's now is. Men's citizenship has always been absolutely independent of that of their wives.

The amendments proposed would equalize the present law by making the following changes:

1. All American women would retain their citizenship by marriage to aliens instead of, as at present, only those who marry aliens eligible for American citizenship; and foreign-born women eligible to citizenship but married to aliens ineligible would have the same rights to become naturalized as have other eligible aliens, just as eligible male aliens married to ineligible female aliens now have a right to be naturalized.

2. American women who have lost their citizenship by marriage to aliens would be able to regain it by appearing before a court of proper jurisdiction and affirming their allegiance to the United States.

3. American-born women and men married to aliens and living in a foreign country would be placed on the same basis.

Mary Coghlan, a woman who was born and reared in Washington, and later lost her citizenship by marriage to an alien, was among those who appeared on behalf of the measure. Mrs. Coghlan is now in America, and is treated as an alien, although she never wished to give up her citizenship. If she had been a man in the same circumstances, she would not have lost her citizenship. She is now in the United States, and is staying on a six-months' extension. The State Department is now demanding bond of her before it will permit her to stay longer. She refuses to give bond, because to do so would be equivalent to admitting she is an alien.

Mrs. Coghlan is a member of the National Woman's Party.

Elizabeth Kite presented the case of the American women married to Hindus, most of whom married these members of a Caucasian race when they were believed to be eligible to citizenship, and many of them, as well as their husbands who have gone through the process of naturalization, have functioned as citizens for years, only to have their nationality taken from them by a court decision.

Emma Wold and Maud Younger appeared for the National Woman's Party.

Senator Frank B. Willis of Ohio is chairman of the sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Immigration before which the hearings were held, and Representative Albert Johnson is chairman of the House of Representatives' Committee on Immigration and Naturalization.

Money, Money Everywhere and Not a Cent to Spend

By Rebecca Hourwich

THE drawing room audience was alive to the speakers recitation of the many disabilities of women. There were women there of all ages, all classes, and each reacted in her way, some with wonder, some with pain, some with indignation. Few of the women remained unmoved. Yet in that whole room one face flamed forth, that of a pretty blonde girl not grown to maturity. Her blue eyes alive with anger, there was something almost heroic about her sudden rising and her well bred shout, "I will be a founder!"

It took but a few minutes to learn that she was about thirty, the wife of the town's wealthy automobile manufacturer, and the mother of several small children. Naturally a young woman of so great enthusiasm was promptly cultivated with the hope of further interesting her, and an appointment was made for the next day.

That evening in consultation with the local chairman it was decided as the immediate need of money was imperative, we would call the new convert and ask her to please send her check. We knew she would understand, she seemed that kind. She answered the telephone:

"I am so glad you telephoned me," she said. "I was just about to call you. I have mailed you a check, but only for ten dollars. I am so sorry and ashamed, but my husband refuses to let me send the hundred."

"Bother your husband," answered the local chairman, a close friend of both the wife and husband. "Write your own check. You keep your own books."

"Oh, yes, I keep my own books, and his too, for that matter, but he signs the checks."

"Well, forget about the check," suggested the chairman, "and pledge to give us so much a month."

"Oh, I couldn't do that," wailed the woman. "I haven't any money."

"I don't mean the whole hundred at once, or even fifty," interposed the chairman.

"I haven't got any money to give, no money at all," insisted the woman. The local chairman's patience slightly lagged, for the speaker at the other end, certainly in appearance was very prosperous, indeed. She verged on the sarcastic. "Give us what you can. Give us five dollars a month out of your vegetable money."

"My vegetables are paid through bills. I don't see five dollars in cash from one month to another," came back the final answer.

Next day we called upon the pretty blonde, who looked more tired and wistful than fiery-eyed. I am not a professional appraiser, but even with my limited knowledge of wordly trappings, it was obvious to me that the house we had entered, the red Bokharas carelessly strewn over the entire lower floor, the paintings on the walls, the large portraits of the children, the cut flowers in many corners, represented an investment of well over a quarter of a million dollars. The immaculate order of the interior and grounds, plus the distant and faint hubbub of servants suggested the scale of living of the inhabitants.

This young woman was the executive head of a staff of employees, the head of an establishment that disbursed thousands of dollars a year. And this woman surrounded by wealth, responsible for the proper preservation and care of a plant worth a small invested fortune, this woman who would some day perhaps inherit a million dollars of her own, certainly live to see her children in the control of a vast fortune, this woman, with damp, glistening eyes repeated that she never had a penny she could call her own.

When we left, the local chairman had a new expression upon her face.

"I always thought that woman had everything a woman could want," she slowly said.

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To remove all forms of the subjection of women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation"

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 21.
House Joint Resolution Number 75.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 10, 1923, by Senator Charles E. Curtis.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 13, 1923, by Representative D. R. Anthony.

Women in the Immigration Bills Now Before Congress

WHEN at the hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment in February, 1925, before the House Committee on the Judiciary, a Woman's Party speaker mentioned a discrimination against women in the Immigration Act of 1924, her statement was challenged by members of the committee. Since that date, among members of both houses of Congress, such an awareness of the particular inequality mentioned has arisen that a veritable bevy of bills has been introduced to remedy the defect. In behalf of justice to women and a more humane policy in the immigration law, it is fortunate that the subject is receiving this attention.

THE particular portion of the law to be changed is section 4 (a) of the Immigration Act, which defines a non-quota immigrant as one "who is the unmarried child under 18 years of age, or the wife, of a citizen of the United States." At present there is no provision for admitting the husband of a citizen of the United States except that he is given a visa preference within the quota.

Practically every bill on immigration now before Congress touching on this particular section would place the husband of a citizen in the same class with the wife of a citizen and allow either to enter the United States as a non-quota immigrant. Some would include the father and the mother of a citizen, and even the minor brothers and sisters. Up to March 15 fifteen bills on this subject had been introduced by Senators Copeland, Lenroot, and Wadsworth, and Congressmen Perlman, Cole, La Guardia, Dickstein, Sabath, Wood, Bacon, Jacobstein, Somers and Oliver.

INDICATIVE of the difficulty members of Congress find in recognizing the wife as a person, and not an accompaniment, is the fact that some of the bills, while changing subdivision (a) of section 4, still leave other subdivisions of the section unchanged, so that only the wife and children of certain immigrants may come in as non-quota immigrants. Thus an immigrant who was born in North American or South American territory may bring in his wife and children, but the law makes no mention of the husband of such an immigrant. Again a minister of any religious denomination or a professor of a college, academy, seminary or university, and his wife and children, may enter. If the minister or professor happens to be a woman, she must leave her husband behind, with the hope that in the course of months or years he may be able to find a place within the quota.

Other changes proposed in the immigration law are that the fiance or fiancee of an American citizen shall come in as a non-quota immigrant, and also that a woman who lost her American citizenship by marriage before the adoption of the Cable Act shall be permitted to enter, regardless of the quota. At the present time there is a strange legal fiction that such a woman was not born here, but in some other country.

ONE bill would admit women domestic servants where they agree to continue in domestic service for at least three years after their admission and to report annually to the immigration authorities that they are so employed. This "open season" for domestics would last for one year. One gasps at this proposal to return to the day of the indentured servant. A bill in a measure corresponding to this and applicable to men would admit a man who has been employed as a farm laborer and who comes for the purpose of getting employment as a farm laborer, but there is no proviso that he shall be restricted to such work for a specified time.

A bill would admit nuns, deaconesses, and sisters of recognized religious orders as teachers in parochial schools, nurses in hospitals, and for service in charitable institutions.

It would seem that, as to the subject of immigration, women are still "women" and not "citizens" or "immigrants." The existent immigration laws and the construction thereof reveal it; the proposed changes in the law prove it.

Women for Congress Tour

BY means of street meetings, dinners, luncheons, drawing room meetings, radio talks, and newspaper interviews, the Coast to Coast Tour of the National Woman's Party in the interests of "More Women in Congress in 1927," now being made by Mabel Vernon and Margaret Whittemore, is attracting the widest attention in the States through which they are going.

Conferences are being held throughout the trip on possible candidates for Congress in every community, and on means of uniting women behind women who will unwaveringly stand for Equal Rights. Many women are considering attending the Women for Congress Conference to be held in Baltimore the middle of May.

"The tour is attracting a lot of attention to this demand of women to put women in Congress who are for women," Miss Whittemore writes.

Many conferences are being held along the line with business and professional women's groups who are very upstanding, and who believe completely in Equal Rights, Miss Whittemore says.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Simmen of Eden, New York, met Miss Whittemore and Miss Vernon in Indianapolis and helped with the meetings and conferences there.

A luncheon was held at the Claypool Hotel to which representative Indianapolis women had been invited. Every woman present joined the National Woman's Party, and an Indiana Branch was immediately formed, with Dr. Lillian Sielker as chairman. She and her sister, Dr. Amelia Kellar have long been leaders of the woman's movement in Indiana, and both became Founders of the National Woman's Party.

Miss Vernon addressed the meeting on the Women for Congress Campaign, and on the Equal Rights Amendment. Both she and Miss Whittemore broadcasted one evening from the Indianapolis *News* station.

Mr. and Mrs. Simmen accompanied the Woman's Party car, with its purple, white and gold flags, and its "Women for Congress—Coast to Coast Tour," from Indianapolis to Terre Haute, Indiana, where a luncheon and a few conferences were held.

Very severe weather hindered the progress of the car across Indiana and Missouri. The stay in Kansas City was filled with the greatest activity. The car was met by the Missouri chairman of the National Woman's Party, Estelle Balfour Bennett. Meetings, dinners, luncheons, theater speeches, and radio talks there uncovered and stimulated a great interest in the campaign. A detailed account of the activity in Kansas City will appear in a later issue of EQUAL RIGHTS.

From there the campaigners went on across Kansas, and according to latest news, expected to arrive in Colorado Springs in time for the luncheon planned for them by Dr. Caroline Spencer at the Broadmoor Hotel on March 20. The roads and the weather are proving to be very bad, but this fact does not hamper the tour, nor does it seem to diminish the interest being taken everywhere in the campaign.

British Women Condemn Sex Restrictions in Industry

By Crystal Eastman

THIS has been a great week for suffrage in London. At the invitation of the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, Mme. Malaterre-Sellier, secretary of the *Union Francaise pour le Suffrage des Femmes,* crossed the channel in order to issue personally an invitation to British women to attend the Tenth Annual Woman Suffrage Congress to be held at the Sorbonne in Paris, May 30 to June 6 next. Mme. Malaterre spoke at crowded meetings on Thursday and Friday evenings. She is a woman distinguished in many fields. During the war she received the Croix de Guerre and the Legion D'Honneur for war service. In 1918 she was awarded the Prix Audiffred de l'Academie Francais for a most remarkable act of heroism. She also undertook valuable social work during the war, founding antituberculosis and milk depots in the liberated districts. Since the war she has become an active leader in the peace and Feminist movements, acting not only as Secretary of the Union Francaise but as president of its Paris group, as a member of the executive board of the I. W. S. A., as president of the peace section of the French National Council of Women, and as vice-president of the Women's League of Nations Union.

Despite her many achievements and distinctions Mme. Malaterre is young and handsome, and she has that rare, mysterious gift of eloquence. (Sometimes I think it is merely the power of feeling intensely, feeling to the full the meaning and purpose of the words spoken, and feeling at the same time the beauty of the words themselves.) She asked us to come to the Sorbonne in May as though the privilege of asking us were a great dramatic opportunity in her life, and as though she were calling us to start a revolution.

The Congress has been fixed for the end of May with an eye on the French Senate which meets in June. The suffrage measure which passed the Deputies last year was defeated in the Senate by 21 votes. And it is hoped that this great gathering of women from all over the world in Paris just as the French Senate opens will have its effect on those twenty-one votes.

On Friday of last week also, occurred the second mass-meeting in the Equal Citizenship Campaign, upon which all the Feminist groups and scores upon scores of other organizations have united this spring. Its object is to complete the enfranchisement of British women. The present measure, by which women over thirty may vote, has no basis in reason or justice and, moreover has the distinct effect of disfranchising more than half of the women industrial workers. A unique feature of this meeting was the reading of greetings and messages of encouragement from Mrs. Pankhurst who happens to be in London now, and from Lord Oxford (formerly Mr. Herbert Asquith).

Of far greater interest to me than these public meetings, however, were the sessions of the annual council meeting of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. It was this society, (as perhaps some faithful reader will remember)—the largest, oldest, and most conservative of British Feminist groups—which last year re-affirmed its conviction "that legislation for the protection of the workers should be based not upon sex but upon the nature of the occupation," and regretted "that certain of the Washington conventions are not in accordance with these principles."

RESOLUTIONS may not amount to much in the history of progress, but they indicate its direction. At last week's meeting the N. U. S. E. C. passed six resolutions dealing with protective laws, which for vigor and emphasis, and for vigilant attention to specific violations of the principle of equality, leave nothing to be desired. From the debate which raged around these resolutions one may fairly assume that the question of sex restrictions in industry has become a major Feminist issue in Great Britain.

There was, to begin with, a decided attempt made to modify the attitude of the Union by substituting for last year's pronouncement (quoted above) the following:

"This Council recognizes the danger that protective legislation for women workers may result in the arbitrary restriction of their wage-earning opportuni-

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Other changes proposed in the immigration law are that the fiance or fiancee of an American citizen shall come in as a non-quota immigrant, and also that a woman who lost her American citizenship by marriage before the adoption of the Cable Act shall be permitted to enter, regardless of the quota. At the present time there is a strange legal fiction that such a woman was not born here, but in some other country.

ONE bill would admit women domestic servants where they agree to continue in domestic service for at least three years after their admission and to report annually to the immigration authorities that they are so employed. This "open season" for domestics would last for one year. One gasps at this proposal to return to the day of the indentured servant. A bill in a measure corresponding to this and applicable to men would admit a man who has been employed as a farm laborer and who comes for the purpose of getting employment as a farm laborer, but there is no proviso that he shall be restricted to such work for a specified time.

A bill would admit nuns, deaconesses, and sisters of recognized religious orders as teachers in parochial schools, nurses in hospitals, and for service in charitable institutions.

It would seem that, as to the subject of immigration, women are still "women" and not "citizens" or "immigrants." The existent immigration laws and the construction thereof reveal it; the proposed changes in the law prove it.

Women for Congress Tour

BY means of street meetings, dinners, luncheons, drawing room meetings, radio talks, and newspaper interviews, the Coast to Coast Tour of the National Woman's Party in the interests of "More Women in Congress in 1927," now being made by Mabel Vernon and Margaret Whittemore, is attracting the widest attention in the States through which they are going.

Conferences are being held throughout the trip on possible candidates for Congress in every community, and on means of uniting women behind women who will unwaveringly stand for Equal Rights. Many women are considering attending the Women for Congress Conference to be held in Baltimore the middle of May.

"The tour is attracting a lot of attention to this demand of women to put women in Congress who are for women," Miss Whittemore writes.

Many conferences are being held along the line with business and professional women's groups who are very upstanding, and who believe completely in Equal Rights, Miss Whittemore says.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Simmen of Eden, New York, met Miss Whittemore and Miss Vernon in Indianapolis and helped with the meetings and conferences there.

A luncheon was held at the Claypool Hotel to which representative Indianapolis women had been invited. Every woman present joined the National Woman's Party, and an Indiana Branch was immediately formed, with Dr. Lillian Sielker as chairman. She and her sister, Dr. Amelia Kellar have long been leaders of the woman's movement in Indiana, and both became Founders of the National Woman's Party.

Miss Vernon addressed the meeting on the Women for Congress Campaign, and on the Equal Rights Amendment. Both she and Miss Whittemore broadcasted one evening from the Indianapolis *News* station.

Mr. and Mrs. Simmen accompanied the Woman's Party car, with its purple, white and gold flags, and its "Women for Congress—Coast to Coast Tour," from Indianapolis to Terre Haute, Indiana, where a luncheon and a few conferences were held.

Very severe weather hindered the progress of the car across Indiana and Missouri. The stay in Kansas City was filled with the greatest activity. The car was met by the Missouri chairman of the National Woman's Party, Estelle Balfour Bennett. Meetings, dinners, luncheons, theater speeches, and radio talks there uncovered and stimulated a great interest in the campaign. A detailed account of the activity in Kansas City will appear in a later issue of EQUAL RIGHTS.

From there the campaigners went on across Kansas, and according to latest news, expected to arrive in Colorado Springs in time for the luncheon planned for them by Dr. Caroline Spencer at the Broadmoor Hotel on March 20. The roads and the weather are proving to be very bad, but this fact does not hamper the tour, nor does it seem to diminish the interest being taken everywhere in the campaign.

British Women Condemn Sex Restrictions in Industry

By Crystal Eastman

THIS has been a great week for suffrage in London. At the invitation of the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, Mme. Malaterre-Sellier, secretary of the *Union Francaise pour le Suffrage des Femmes,* crossed the channel in order to issue personally an invitation to British women to attend the Tenth Annual Woman Suffrage Congress to be held at the Sorbonne in Paris, May 30 to June 6 next. Mme. Malaterre spoke at crowded meetings on Thursday and Friday evenings. She is a woman distinguished in many fields. During the war she received the Croix de Guerre and the Legion D'Honneur for war service. In 1918 she was awarded the Prix Audiffred de l'Academie Francais for a most remarkable act of heroism. She also undertook valuable social work during the war, founding antituberculosis and milk depots in the liberated districts. Since the war she has become an active leader in the peace and Feminist movements, acting not only as Secretary of the Union Francaise but as president of its Paris group, as a member of the executive board of the I. W. S. A., as president of the peace section of the French National Council of Women, and as vice-president of the Women's League of Nations Union.

Despite her many achievements and distinctions Mme. Malaterre is young and handsome, and she has that rare, mysterious gift of eloquence. (Sometimes I think it is merely the power of feeling intensely, feeling to the full the meaning and purpose of the words spoken, and feeling at the same time the beauty of the words themselves.) She asked us to come to the Sorbonne in May as though the privilege of asking us were a great dramatic opportunity in her life, and as though she were calling us to start a revolution.

The Congress has been fixed for the end of May with an eye on the French Senate which meets in June. The suffrage measure which passed the Deputies last year was defeated in the Senate by 21 votes. And it is hoped that this great gathering of women from all over the world in Paris just as the French Senate opens will have its effect on those twenty-one votes.

On Friday of last week also, occurred the second mass-meeting in the Equal Citizenship Campaign, upon which all the Feminist groups and scores upon scores of other organizations have united this spring. Its object is to complete the enfranchisement of British women. The present measure, by which women over thirty may vote, has no basis in reason or justice and, moreover has the distinct effect of disfranchising more than half of the women industrial workers. A unique feature of this meeting was the reading of greetings and messages of encouragement from Mrs. Pankhurst who happens to be in London now, and from Lord Oxford (formerly Mr. Herbert Asquith).

Of far greater interest to me than these public meetings, however, were the sessions of the annual council meeting of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship. It was this society, (as perhaps some faithful reader will remember)—the largest, oldest, and most conservative of British Feminist groups—which last year re-affirmed its conviction "that legislation for the protection of the workers should be based not upon sex but upon the nature of the occupation," and regretted "that certain of the Washington conventions are not in accordance with these principles."

RESOLUTIONS may not amount to much in the history of progress, but they indicate its direction. At last week's meeting the N. U. S. E. C. passed six resolutions dealing with protective laws, which for vigor and emphasis, and for vigilant attention to specific violations of the principle of equality, leave nothing to be desired. From the debate which raged around these resolutions one may fairly assume that the question of sex restrictions in industry has become a major Feminist issue in Great Britain.

There was, to begin with, a decided attempt made to modify the attitude of the Union by substituting for last year's pronouncement (quoted above) the following:

"This Council recognizes the danger that protective legislation for women workers may result in the arbitrary restriction of their wage-earning opportuni-

ties, and calls upon the N. U. S. E. C. executive to take cognizance of the course of such legislation with a view to detecting and combating its abuse."

THIS substitute resolution was proposed by Mrs. Stocks, who is chairman of the executive; it was supported by such women as Madeleine Simons, a well-known Fabian and co-worker of Beatrice and Sidney Webb; it was known to be favored by the president and most distinguished member of the Society, Mrs. Eleanor Rathbone. Nevertheless, it had no chance. And I was interested to find that one of the younger women who opposed the substitute and believed it a dangerous attempt to weaken the stand of the National Union on industrial equality is a labour woman, Miss Monica Whately, active member and speaker in the Labour Party and a prospective Labour candidate for Parliament. It is good to find an occasional Feminist in the Labour Party.

Indeed the intention of the delegates was by no means to weaken their opposition to restrictive laws, but rather to emphasize and define it.

Thus, in re-drafting their immediate program, Point No. 4, which reads "Equal pay for equal work and equality in industry and the professions," was specifically defined to include:

"(a) The abolition of the customary division of labour into men's and women's work.

"(b) The application of the principle that protective legislation shall be based on the nature of the work and not upon the sex of the workers."

Next came three resolutions dealing with proposed labour legislation in Great Britain, which I quote in full:

1. "The N. U. S. E. C. calls upon the Government in its promised consolidating and amending Factories Bill so to frame its provisions for the safeguarding of the worker, including those dealing with hours of labour, periods of employment, sanitation and ventilation, rest, medical attention and examination, and general supervision of health, that they shall apply to men and women equally.
" * * * And protests against the inclusion in any such bill of provisions which give the Secretary of State unlimited powers to exclude female young persons on the ground of sex from any process or to limit the conditions of their employment.

2. "That in view of the attempt made during the debate on the Expiring Laws Bill to restrict still further the already limited freedom of women in industry, by prohibiting their employment on the two-shift system, and in view of the fact that this system has in those cases in which it has been permitted had beneficial effects, this Council calls upon the Government to promote legislation permitting the employment of women on the shift system.

3. "That if a bill on the line of the Lead Paint (Protection Against Poisoning) Bill, 1925, be introduced during this session, this Council demands that it shall not include Clause 2 of that bill, which would have the effect of closing the painting trade to women and of limiting apprenticeship to male persons only."

FINALLY a long resolution was adopted demanding international action. It began by calling attention to the efforts of the International Labour Office "to standardize internationally a system of differential restrictive legislation against women workers," and urging "international action to combat the underlying fallacies of this so-called protection of women." The resolution then went on to ordain two courses of action: the National Union should (1) "co-operate with individuals and organizations in other countries who oppose restrictive legislation"; and (2) *"seek to have the following resolution placed upon the Agenda of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Congress in May:*

"'This Congress holds that all regulations and restrictions which aim at the true protection of the worker must be based not upon sex but on the nature of the occupation; and that any international system of differential legislation based on sex, in spite of any temporary advantage, must develop into an intolerable tyranny and result in the segregation of women workers and impose fresh handicaps on their capacity as wage-earners.'"

WHAT does the adoption of this resolution mean? It means that the entire British delegation will go to Paris in May committed to asking the I. W. S. A. to call the highly benevolent designs of the International Labour Office for woman's protection an "intolerable tyranny," as indeed they are.

Medical Women and Equal Rights

By Jane Norman Smith,
New York State Chairman of the
National Woman's Party.

LAST autumn a young woman who had been recommended by the head of her college as having "exceptional ability," and who was graduated from a Washington, D. C., Medical College with highest honors, knocked at the doors of New York City hospitals in an endeavor to secure an interneship.

She had in mind Presbyterian, St. Luke's, Roosevelt, etc. After days of fruitless effort, she turned to the Woman's Party with the full realization that women in the professions face the same intolerable situation with regard to equal opportunity as do women in industry and in other walks of life, for she had either been told that women internes were not taken at all in some hospitals, or that the accommodations provided for their entrance in other hospitals were such that few women were ever admitted.

To the New York Branch of the Woman's Party she said: "I have gone over the bulletin of *Hospitals Approved for Interneship,* by the American Medical Association, and the following are open to women:

"Brownsville and East New York Hospital.

"Greenpoint: St. Catherine's, and St. Mary's.

"New York City: New York Infirmary for Women and Children, Presbyterian, St. Mark's, Bellevue, Fordham, Metropoliton, New York Homoeopathic Medical College, and Flower.

"Out of forty-one hospitals in New York and Brooklyn, which are approved for interneship, only eleven are open to women. Although some may take women and not be included in the list, the women in schools outside of New York would not know of it, and so their chances of interning here are reduced. Some hospitals state they will accept women, but they do so under various provisions, as in the case of Presbyterian Hospital, where, I am told, only six women have interned in ever so many years, and now, if a woman is to be admitted, another woman must also be admitted in order to save room space, and they claim that it is hard to accommodate a woman."

Through the efforts of the Woman's Party, this young woman secured an interneship in the Metropolitan Hospital on Welfare Island.

Having thus received at first-hand evidence of the exclusion of women from the staff of many New York City hospitals, the proposed merger of the New York Infirmary for Women with the very hospitals that have accepted so few women on their staffs is viewed with concern by

the New York Branch of the Woman's Party, and all women who seek to secure equal opportunity for women doctors.

The New York Infirmary for women has an interesting history. Seventy-five years ago Drs. Emily and Elizabeth Blackwell opened the Infirmary as a hospital for women in a tiny flat in New York City. At that time there was no college for women medical students in New York, and as interest grew in the project, a school was opened in connection with the hospital, which became a college for women medical students. When Cornell University opened its medical college, Dr. Blackwell sent her students there and eventually gave up her college. She enlarged the hospital and had many celebrated women physicians on the hospital staff.

Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi, the first woman who was admitted to the Paris Medical School, was one of the instructors, as was Dr. Elizabeth Cuchier, surgeon and general practitioner, now over eighty years old. These older women doctors made every sacrifice in order to establish this hospital for women.

Today there are over forty women on the staff and any woman physician of good standing may bring her patients to the "Courtesy Floor" of the hospital. There is an endowment fund of over $1,000,000, provided by donors who were interested in a woman's hospital, run for women and by women. In addition, Mrs. Louis L. Tiffany left $300,000 to the Infirmary, on condition that there shall be women doctors only upon the staff.

Like all other hospitals, it has been difcult to finance the Infirmary, and it is claimed by some that there is no longer a need for that particular hospital. However, we have been told that last spring another hospital offered to come in as a consultant, with almost a guarantee that the beds would be kept full.

The Board of Trustees of the Infirmary has before it now a proposal to merge with the Presbyterian Hospital, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Sloane Hospital for Women, Neurological Hospital, and Babies' Hospital, in the new medical center.

Dr. C. C. Burlingame of the Joint Administrative Board of the Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital, is quoted in the New York *World* of February 13, 1926, as saying: "We will take women doctors on the basis of ability, just as we do men doctors. It is not a question of sex. Ability is all that is considered."

Of the other hospitals forming the merger there is this to say: We have been told that a $50,000 bequest was made to the College of Physicians and Surgeons, on condition that women students should be admitted; that at first women were accepted on competitive examinations. Afterward they were limited to 10 per cent of the total number of students; that for many years Presbyterian Hospital took the top five of the graduating class of P. & S.; that a year or so after women were admitted, three of the five were women, and after that Presbyterian Hospital found that they did not have room for women.

On February 9 the Woman's Party telephoned to several hospitals, asking whether they would take women internes and whether they have women on their staff. From the superintendent's office in these hospitals came the following replies:

Sloane Hospital for Women: "We have never had but one interne and she is the only one now on our staff."

Neurological: "We have no women on our staff because our quarters are so cramped; that is the only reason; we have women in out-patient clinics, and we hope to have women at the New Medical Centre."

Babies: "We have no women internes or women doctors, except one woman in dispensary service. Our policy is for men."

Knowing the past record of these hospitals and the attitude of Columbia University in excluding women from its Law School, there seems to be sufficient cause for the fear on the part of the Women's Medical Association, which has made a formal protest against the merger, and Feminist groups, that if the merger goes through, women doctors will gain scant recognition.

There have been protests in the city press by various groups, including the Woman's Party, against the attitude of the hospitals forming the merger toward women, which have evidently inspired the following statement by the Joint Administrative Board of the New Medical Center, which appeared in the New York *Times* of February 21, 1926:

HOMES FOR WOMEN DOCTORS PLANNED AT MEDICAL CENTRE

"A special arrangement of the living quarters for internes and physicians provided in the plans for the Medical Centre now being erected on Washington Heights to take care of the increasing number of women entering the profession was announced yesterday at the offices of the Joint Administrative Board of the Centre.

There are now fifty-five women in a total of 376 students at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. At the Babies' Hospital women internes were first appointed in 1889 and appointments have been open to both men and women since 1911. At the Presbyterian Hospital the first women internes were appointed in 1921, at Sloane Hospital the first appointment was in 1923, and at the Neurological Institute, during the current year."

We hope that the Board of Trustees of the New York Infirmary for Women will find some means of preserving this one and only hospital run for women and by women. If the merger is consummated, and the $1,000,000 endowment fund turned over to the New Medical Centre, we can only hope that in return women doctors may be granted equal opportunity with men.

Press Comment

Equal Rights as Viewed by British Catholics

(*From the Catholic Citizen, Organ of the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance*)

EQUAL RIGHTS expresses regret that once more, at their annual convention held in Washington in November, the National Council of Catholic Women pledged itself to offer vigorous opposition to the policy of the Equal Rights Party, mainly on the ground that by it "the unity of home and family life is seriously menaced." EQUAL RIGHTS recalls with satisfaction the support accorded to their policy by St. Joan's Alliance, and asserts that all through the States numbers of Catholic women, acting as individuals, are to be found among their supporters.

The same issue reports a new practical development by one of their members, Tiera Farrow, who has opened a women's law school in Kansas City. It will give "short, practical, non-technical courses in business procedure and in law affecting business, for housewives and others needing just enough law to attend to their business and property interests. It would be well," adds the paper, "if she would give a course on the disabilities of women under the laws of their country, so that women would know exactly their legal status."

Women Oppose 48-Hour Bill as Discriminating in Favor of Men

New York World, February 25.

THE working women of New York would rather work sixty hours a week on an equal footing with men than work forty-eight hours on an unequal footing. They are willing to accept equal hardships if they can have Equal Rights.

So declared speakers at the mass-meeting called last night by the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party in the Central Opera House, 67th St. and Third Ave. And the 300 working women attending voted unanimous approval.

Resolutions opposing the Mastick-Shonk Forty-eight Hour Bill, which would regulate the hours of women and children, were adopted and copies mailed special delivery to Albany. The women had not learned when the action was taken that the Senate yesterday adopted a rosolution designed to kill the Mastick-Shonk bill until after election.

"So long as this forty-eight hour bill is written to restrict the hours of women only, and not of men and women," declared Doris Stevens in opening the meeting, "we shall oppose its passage."

Equality

Erie County Independent
Hamburg, N. Y.
February 4, 1926

THE papers recently carried the news that the "Woman's Party opens battle for Equality" and men and women everywhere said—why we have it, haven't we—women vote! With women's right to vote many have believed women became full citizens in this republic. Let us examine into this citizenship. In New York State they are nearly full-fledged citizens, there being only about 22 laws on the books that discriminate against women. But suppose New York women move elsewhere? Suppose they go to some State where the Old English Common Law or the Spanish Regime Laws form the basis of jurisprudence? However the crux of the "battle" is not re Old laws, but concerning the New laws that are being written on our statute books now, these so-called "protective" laws. If women want equality, can they ask for protection at the same time? Which do they want and why? Protection suggests weakness and inability. Equality suggests maturity and development. What law requires women to go home from a dance or a friend's bridge party because it is 10 o'clock? Then why send a woman home from her work because it is 10 o'clock? "Early to bed and early to rise, makes one healthy, wealthy and wise"—and the bulk of our citizenry do that as we note by the darkened homes at that hour. But if some women wish to play after 10 o'clock and some women wish to work after 10 o'clock, why discriminate only against those who work?

Then take the eight-hour law. If men have to work to earn a living and women also have to work to earn a living, and both must pay the same carfare to get to work, the same taxes on their property, the same sum of money for a loaf of bread or a quart of milk—why deny the woman the chance to earn? Men and women have equality to spend, but not to earn. Why? This conflict today is being fought out largely within the ranks of the women themselves. Men employers dislike "welfare" laws when applied to only one group of their workers. But the strange thing is that the women who do not have to work themselves in industry for a living are the "maternal" ones "protecting" their fellow-women, who do have to work in industry for a living—from the chance to earn! The causes of this confusion and well-intentioned interest is well worth study and throws some of our customs into a new light when viewed along with the facts of practical daily living.

News From The Field

New Jersey Senate Acts Affirmatively

SENATE BILL No. 57, which permits a married woman to act as executrix, administratrix, guardian or trustee, as if unmarried, and which continues her authority after marriage in case of entering the marital state after appointment, has passed the New Jersey Senate with a vote of 17-0.

The bill was introduced by Senator William B. Mackay of Bergen County. Only after intensive lobbying and after having been brought up three times was the bill put through the Senate.

It is inspiring to note that the bill received the endorsement of the New Jersey Women's Republican Club.

Countess Cathcart Tells of Discriminations Against Women

COUNTESS Cathcart, whose debarment from the United States by the immigration authorities, brought so clearly before the public the double moral standard fostered in the administration of various laws, was guest at an informal tea at headquarters of the National Woman's Party on March 18. She told of the injustice to women wrought by the divorce and child guardianship laws of England, as well as of other inequalities in the law and in the economic world.

This was the first time the National Woman's Party had met the countess in whose case the organization took an active part. In protest against Government recognition of a double moral standard, the Woman's Party twice appeared before the State Department demanding that a woman can be barred because of admitting having committed an act involving "moral turpitude," while men guilty of the same acts are constantly being admitted without question, and even, in several cases, being welcomed as honored guests.

Among those present at the tea were Alice Paul, Maud Younger, Mary Gertrude Fendall, Anita Pollitzer, Sue White, Alice Gram Robinson, and May Gram Schaeffer.

Countess Cathcart expressed great appreciation of the work being done by the National Woman's Party in behalf of Equal Rights between men and women.

North Dakota Educator at Headquarters

MARTHA P. TATEM, assistant superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of North Dakota, has been a recent guest at National Headquarters of the Woman's Party. Mrs. Tatem came to Washington to the meetings of the National Education Association, and became greatly interested in the work of the National Woman's Party on behalf of women. She spent about two weeks at Headquarters, and is returning to North Dakota with literature of the Equal Rights movement, to work for equality there where woman have already won many positions in public life, particularly in the field of education. Mrs. Tatem was County Superintendent of Williams County for eight years, was State Inspector for two years, and was appointed Assistant State Superintendent in November, 1924. Of the fifty-three counties in North Dakota, thirty-eight have women as county superintendents.

Other Branches Please Copy

AT the weekly Tuesday tea of the Maryland Branch, held at headquarters, 19 West Chase street, Baltimore, on March 16, it was unanimously voted that EQUAL RIGHTS be placed in the Enoch Pratt Public Library of Baltimore and in each one of its twenty-six branches scattered throughout the city. At a previous meeting it had been decided to send the paper to the Maryland Congressmen if they were not already supplied with it. The Maryland Branch feels very strongly that EQUAL RIGHTS should be in the hands of every Senator and every Representative in Congress, and on file in all the public and college libraries throughout the country.

A series of card parties starting Monday, March 22, at the home of Mrs. Theodore Forbes is being arranged to raise money to carry on the work in Maryland.

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